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VOL. IX.--NO. 34.

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A plentiful supply, Then vanished with his fairy steeds Somewhere beyond the sky. If that be so," my playmate said In whispers soft to me, At midnight hour we'll climb the root

"SANTA CLAUS."

BY MARY D. BRINE.

Oh! for the merry " Long Ago"

As Christmas morn drew near.

Before the wondrous faith and trust

When little hearts beat high and fast

And the magic name of "Santa Claus"

Twas said that at the midnight hour

Stepped quickly to each chimney top

Of childhood's happy day.

Forever fled away!

To every soul was dear.

This Prince from fairy-land

And from his lavish hand

Old Santa Claus to see !"

But did he don the magic cap

That hides from mortal sight? For neither Prince nor toys saw we, Only the moonbeams bright, And yet when morning dawned at last And Christmas bells rang clear. Lo! there they were, the Christmas gifts To childish hearts so dear! Then many a cheer for Santa Claus. The kindly Prince of toys, The wonderful, mysterious friend

Of earth's glad girls and boys! But wisdom came with added years, And we at last had proof That Santa Claus is found below, And not above the roof. All hail to the glad Christmas-time! We say it as of old. But let the children's eager hearts

To the old story hold. Let Santa Claus still live for them, To gladden each sweet dreamor soon they'll learn the painful truth Things are not all they seem. For them the merry "Long Ago" Of childhood's Christmas day Ere long with childhood's distant joys Shall also fade away.

THE VACANT SEAT. A Christmas Story.

It was on the morning of the day before Christmas. Most of the people who lived in the little hamlet of St. Anne's were looking forward with joyons anticipations to the morrow, but not all. In the cot of Arkwright, the pilot, there was sadness instead of joy, and the looking forward to the Christmas time was

sadder still. SAML, GASS'S, Sitting down to the table, on this morning before Christmas, were Mrs. Arkwright and three children -the widow and the fatherless. The widow was a woman of five-andforty, yet fair and comely, though care and sorrow had drawn deep, dark lines upon her face. Of the children the oldest was a girl, Marv. of 15; and the youngest a boy, of 8. And at the table were two vacant seats-one at the head, and another on the right of the head. And this

is why they were vacant: made to order. All work warranted. Six years before there had been Shop on Olive Street, opposite Tatterfirst-born-a stout boy, named Ed- a familiar sound. ward. At the age of 16 he had been And All Kinds of Pumps as a lad of more than usual promise. won't go on if you wish me not." Challenge Wind and Feed Mills, pool, taking with him only a light "Tell me the story, Philip." of the Hammond House, in good running waiting for the lost one.

they had loved him.

the head, and now-now-another another stroke of work." years stood vacant by the side of the why did he go to India?" other. Surely, sorrow was upon "Thus it was," answered Philip, ged edge of the keener misery.

NEW STORE, NEW GOODS. that bore marks of an age beyond picked up by an outward-bound on the ravages of the moths. The

day will be Christmas eve." "Certainly my child."

"Did you not say, mother, that after Christmas eve we would have all the while that his folks at home but one vacant seat at our board?" An expression of pain passed over the face of the mother.

'I said so; and I think so it must catingly. be. Had Edward been with us he Dropped down for those who gifts de

> loved ones departed." at the head of the board-vacant.

While the family were at their man. He was welcomed heartily, can throw it out of doors." for a ray of something akin to sunshine came in with his honest, peared; but he was not gone long.

"Philip," said the widow, reluct- and a companion came with him. antly, "I wish we could ask you to sit at our board; but, alas! it could "its astonishing bow things do turn to know where every cent went to, who are better acquainted with him, only be an empty invitation."

The widow put up her hand.

haps, at some time, should the need right merry Christmas for the mor- good time." come more cruelly upon me, I may row!"

rather than the birth." rubbed his hands over the lazy flame, new idea had struck him.

you ever know the Dolorosa fam-The widow said she had never another child in the household-the known them, though the name had

"They once lived not far from able, when circumstances required, bere," pursued Seabury, "and they to take his father's place at the helm | had a son who was a pilot. Excuse had been looked upon by the hardy pects, so near like your own that I pilots and fishermen of St. Anne's couldn't belp thinking of it. But I

Strong and manful for his age, and "On the contrary," said the widow, handsome and good, he had been not "I should like to hear the story. only the pride and joy of his parents | Even in direct misfortune companbut the pride of the hamlet. One ionship is a relief." And she and day, six years ago, Edward went out her little ones came and gathered in charge of a vessel bound to Liver- around the fire; and she added:

dory in which to return when he "It was your own case that made should have piloted his charge be- me think of it just now," said the yond danger. A sudden and un- pilot, still rubbing his hands over looked-for storm arose, and Edward | the fire. "You see, old Dolorosacame not back. It was said, by queer name, isn't it?-was a pilot those who understood such matters, and his son was a pilot. D've wonthat he must have left the vessel be- der they made me think of old John fore the coming of the storm. Three and Edward? One day, as I was days afterward the wreck of his told-I didn't see it myself-young dory was picked up outside of the Dolorosa, the lad, went out in charge Black rocks, and there was no more of a vessel bound to some foreign port, taking his skiff to come back Following a custom which their in. While he was gone a dreadful fathers had brought with them from storm came on; and it was known another land, Edward's seat at the that he must have left the vessel, frugal board had been from that and that the sudden storm caught time left vacant. Morning, noon him in the egg-shell of a skiff. Of and night the chair which the brave | course he was lost-but, as it turned youth had once occupied was set in out, he wasn't lost for all time. Some its accustomed place, and perhaps years afterward-I won't say just they, in their simple faith, imagined how many-young Dolorosa, grown that the spirit of the departed might to be a grand and handsome man, for him-rich enough at all events, That seat had been at the right of to support the old home without original proprietor thought that warn you. You hear me?"

tumn last passed the husband and that mother!" said Mrs. Arkwright, Gazette. father had been swallowed up in the folding her hands upon her breast. sea, and the chair which he had oc- "My boy can never come back to cupied for full three-and-twenty me! But-how was he saved, and

served to blunt and smooth the rag- posed. When the storm caught him let him. it swamped bim very quickly, but "Mother," said Mary, looking up he clung to his light boat, and, as

to our young pilot, and he accepted it, and there he sailed to and fro, in those far-off waters, doing so well were mourning him as dead."

"And did he not write to his mother during all those weary "Yes, Mary," she replied, huskily, years?" asked the widow, depre-

memories of both fresh and green. were lost by the wrecking of the may sleep all day if they choose, And, moreover, I see that, ere long, ships in which they were sent. How and sit up all night if they desire. we must sell our chairs, and con- the others mis-carried he could not I don't try to correct them. I never tent us with more simple seats. One discover. And thus, you see, he punish, never scold. They buy their chair we will keep, and it shall be came to his home like one risen from own clothes, and are masters of sacred to the memory of both our the dead."

And on that evening the chairs that the pilot concluded his story, broken street, that has a boy that is full as were to be sold were set apart, and only by the low sobs of the stricken kitteny as his father, read the artithe widow and her three children widow. At length Seabury arose cle, and pondered deeply. He knew sat at the table upon rough wooden to take his leave. Before reaching that Col. Ingersoll was a success at boxes. Only one chair remained - the door he turned, twirling his hat raising children in the way they

painfully frugal repast, the door was are going to impose upon you; but considerable trouble, and he made unceremoniously opened, and Philip somebody has made arrangements up his mind that he had not treated Seabury entered. He was a pilot- for a grand Christmas dinner for the boy right, so he called the boy had been a dear friend of John Ark- you to-morrow. It will be sent to in from the street, where he was wright-and was a bluff, big-hearted you, and if you don't want it you putting soft soap on the lamp post,

And with this the old pilot disap- it, and said to him:

ask a favor; but not of joy for the And again Seabury disappeared, morrow. No, no-I feel that we can but he left a stranger standing in best serve ourselves, and pay respect the room-a strong, grand-looking to the dear ones gone, by making man, though young, with the odor our Christmas a day of mourning. of the sea upon him. He stood a We will remember the crucifixion few moments where the old pilot had left him, and then his whole The old pilot sat by the fire, and frame quaked as though he could endure no more. He stretched forth and, after an extended season of re- bis hands, and a single word dropflection, he looked up as though a ped from his lips-a word next akin to heaven-a word holy and sacred ager." word beautiful and divine from the foundation of the world--

"Мотнев." And it had been the story of her own Edward that Philip Scabury had told. It was a long, long time clasped in the strong arms of her son, before she could realize it all; of incoming or outgoing vessels, and me, but their case was, in some res- but reason came at length, and joy

> And on the following morning the bright December's sun ushered

"Is This Seat Occupied?"

An old but vigorous - looking gentleman, seemingly from the rural districts, got into a car and walked an invitation to sit down. Ap-

Judge, "is there anything you wish Ingersoll, if it is the last noble act to say before sentence is passed upon you?" The prisoner looked wistthe humble household, Aye-and "and this I have from one who heard fully toward the door, and remarked more than sorrow-want stared them | him tell the story: On that day of | that he would like to say "goodin the face. And yet, perhaps, this the storm he had left the vessel he evening," if it would be agreeable very wolf barking at their door had piloted out, as had been sup- to the company. But they wouldn't

Little Charlie, a bright 3-year-old, from the breakfast-table with a face good luck would have it, he was has often heard his mother dilating

THE JOURNAL.

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ONE OF BOB INGERSOLL'S THEORIES PUT TO THE TEST.

THE YOUNG IDEA.

Not long since, says Peck's Sun. the following utterance of Bob Ingersoll went the rounds of the pa-

"Col. Ingersoll says he keeps "a pocket book in an open drawer, and "Aye, be sure he did; but not one his children go and help themselves would have been at the head. The of his letters came to hand. Two of to money whenever they want it. single vacant seat will keep the those letters, he afterward learned. They eat when they want to. They themselves."

A silence fell upon the group as | A gentleman living on Marshall should go, and he thought he would "Mrs. Arkwright," he said, "we try it. The boy had caused him in order to see the lamp-lighter climb ate man, and to get him out of the

"My son, I have decided to adopt In a very few minutes he came back a different course with you. Heretofore I have been careful about "Mistress Arkwright," he said, giving you money, and have wanted business for many months. A few out. Just as I was leaving your and my supervision has no doubt say he was honorable and reliable "I had thought of that, Mrs. Ark- door who should I meet but the very been annoying to you. Now, I am prior to the late shooting affray. Mr. wright, and partly for that reason man I'd been telling you about going to leave my pocketbook in Mitchell is an elderly man, having am I here. We want you to have young Dolorosa-and here he is. If the bureau drawer, with plenty of scored sixty-three winters, his beard as merry a Christmas as you can, I've left out any parts of this story, money in it, and you are at liberty and hair are white, his eyes dark, perhaps you can get him to tell the to use all you want without asking and his voice harsh and cold. He rest himself. This is Christmas eve, me. I want you to buy anything appeared to have no fears of the "Hush, Philip. I know the good- Mistress Arkwright, and I've no you desire, buy your own clothes, threats which had been made against ness of your heart, and I appreciate doubt you have much to make you and feel as though the money was them, and when handcuifed by the it; but I cannot think of an attempt sorrowful; but, I declare for it, I'm yours, and that you had not got to Sheriff of Keith county, before leav-

there was something wrong about | And now that man stands around scat was vacant. During the au- "Bless God for the joy given to our social system. - Baltimore from the effects of the encounter with a yellow dog, and asks every man where a letter will reach "Prisoner at the bar," said the Bob Ingersoll. He says he will kill this light it appears justifiable; on

> he ever accomplished. A teacher in a Boston school was delighted to see every child's hand a board put on a part of his land on go up in answer to the question of which was written, "I will give this how many had ever heard of Mr. field to any one who is really con-Emerson, but her soul sunk within her when she discovered it was he asked, "are you contented?" The Billy Emerson, the minstrel man, whose show bills had placarded the walls of the Hub for several days.

line first insertion, three cents a line each subsequent insertion.

Mitchell and Ketchum Were captured and brought to Kearney by the Sheriffs of Merrick and ry Stevens, of Custer county, while acting in the capacity of an officer of the law. We went to the jail on Tuesday morning for the purpose of interviewing them, but found them to be very reticent and noncommunicative. They declined giving any information, only saying

at joy for the morrow. It would going to wish you, and Mary, and account for it. Just make yourself ing Kearney, said they would "treat seem to me almost impious. Per- little Nellie, and little Tommy, a at home now, and try to have a all men right who did not override them." His grey lacks, we are The boy looked at the old gentle- afraid, will not save him should be man, put his hand on his head as fall late the hands of the men who though he had "got 'em sure," and have vowed vengeance against him, went out to see the lamplighter climb such persons generally going on the that soft soap. The next day the principle of "might makes right." stern parent went out into the coun- He is a locksmith by trade, but try shooting, and returned on the moved to this country to get a start midnight train three days later. He and if the people had not interruptopened the door with a night-key, ed him from the first, there would, and a strange yellow dog grabbed never have been any call for the him by the elbow of his pants, and present trouble. This, now, is their shook him, as he said, "like the side of the story, and as a story always has two sides, the other The dog barked and chewed until parties yet remains to be told. That "By the way, Mrs. Arkwright, did beyond all other earthly things-a the son came down in his night the murdered man had a stained shirt and called him off. He told character, there is little doubt, but his father that he had bought that that is no reason he should be shot dog of a fireman for \$11, and it was down in cold blood while acting as probably the best dog bargain that an officer. But to have alleviated had been made this season. He said this sad affair could not a man have the fireman told him he could sell been sent to arrest them who was the dog for a hundred dollars, if he not a sworn enemy of Mitchell and could find a man that wanted that Ketchum? The law should be allowed to take its course in this mat-The parent took off his pants, ter, and when the testimony is taken what the dog had not removed, and the court certainly has dignity and in the hall he stumbled over a birch- knowledge enough to know how to into the widow's cot a merry Christ- bark canoe the boy bought of an render a just verdict. Mob law is Indian for \$9, and an army musket not the law in a civilized country, with an iron ramrod fell from the but we admit, a great many times corner. The boy had paid \$6 for there are aggravated cases when it that. He had also bought himself seems as though this was the only an overcoat with a seal skin collar law to rid the commutty of cut and cuffs, and a complete outfit of throats and thieves, yet it will not its full length without receiving calico shirts and silk stockings. do to swear by or act by. Law is In his room the parent found the law, and if our officers are inefficient proaching one gentleman who had a marble top of a soda fountain, a and dare not execute them, elect whole bench to himself, he asked "Is wheelbarrow and shelf filled with others who will, and not break the this seat occupied?" "Yes, sir, it is," all kinds of canned meat, preserves breach. If we are not going to impertinently replied the other, and crackers, and a barrel of apples. adhere to the principles of law, why "Well," replied the broad shoulder- A wall tent and six pairs of blankets | elect and pay legislators high salaries ed agriculturist, "I will keep this were rolled up ready for camping for making them? There were seat until the gentleman comes." out, and a buckskin shirt and a pair some predictions to the effect that The original proprietor withdrew of corduroy pants lay on the bed, the prisoners would be lynched behimself haughtily to one end, and ready for putting on. Six fish-poles fore arriving at their destination. looked insulted. After a while the and a basket full of fish-lines were These fears, we hope, will prove train got in motion, and still no- ready for business, and an oyster- groundless, and from what we body came to claim the seat, where- can full of grub-worms for bait hear of the law abiding citizens upon the deep-chested agriculturist | were squirming on the wash-stand. | of Custer county, they will see that turned and said: "Sir, when you The old gentleman looked the lay- the prisoners have a fair show at told me that this seat was occupied out over, looked at his pocket-book the preliminary and over taken you told me a lie"-such was his in the bureau drawer-as empty as to a place of safety. The district plain language-"I never sit near a a contribution-box-and then said: Judge is fair and impartial, fully liar if I can avoid it; I would rather "Young man, the time has been understanding the law, and will give stand up." Then, appealing to too flush. We will now return to to the prisoners, if found guilty, all sometimes keep them company, and came home, and joy came with him. another party, he said: "Sir, may I specie basis. When you want mon- the penalty allowed by law. That witness their sorrow, and know, of He had been all the absent years in sit next to you. You don't look ey come to me and I will give you Mitchell killed Stevens, is not denied, a verity, how much and how truly India, had grown rich-that is, rich like a liar." We need hardly say a nickel, and you will tell me what but was there not some cause for that he got his seat, and that the you intend to buy with it, and I will the act? It appears that these men were deadly enemies. Stevens had sent word he would kill Ketchum on sight, and on coming with the papers to serve, was shot down, under the impression they had rid themselves of a bad and dangerous enemy. In

> CONTENTMENT. - A gentleman had tented; and when an applicant came general answer was, "I am;" and his reply invariably was, "Then what do you want of my field?"

The man who "caught the tran-

Howard counties, and placed in jail for safe keeping. They were confined on a charge of murdering Hen-

they would stand a fair trial, and if convicted by an impartial jury, they would meet their sentences as brave men should. Mr. Ketchem is a young man, but 26 years old, 5 feet 10 inches high, with dark hair and eyes, and appears to have been connected with better associates in his former years. He is a man in appearance about the average. He is well known in this city, having been employed in a livery stable here for some time. Some speak of him as being a man who would do nothing rash, unless provoked to it by threats and insults. Others are ready to condemn him as a desperway would be a "good riddance of bad rubbish." And yet again, parties told us he was a professional cattle "agent," and had been in the

the other hand it looks black as night .- Weekly Kearney Nonpareil

New song by a lady-" Be it ever so humble there's no place like the neighbor's."

CIGARS AND TOBACCO her years, "to-morrow is Christmas." Indiaman. Of course he was forced other day he came hurriedly todd-"Why don't men swear when they "Yes, my child; but it can be no to keep on in the ship, and when ling out of the pantry, dragging a are alone?" asks Dr. Talmage. Did ALL KINDS OF Christmas to us. Christmas should they reached Calcutta the owners seive, to the bottom of which he Goods delivered Free of Charge. Dr. Talmage ever lay around the SMOKING ARTICLES. ness. It costs nothing to try the business. Terms and \$5 Outfit free. Address Store on Olive St., near the old Post-office anywhere in the city. be joyous. And joy is not for this bad planned that the ship should go pointed as he exclaimed, "Mamma, fence-corners and see a lone farmer into the Chinese trade. A grand mamma! see what 'mothies' have at once, H. HALLIT & Co., Portland, pick up a bumble-bee? What did sient hour" had never been vaccinat-Corner of 13th and Madison Sts. "But, mother, the evening of to- chance to make money was offered done!" that farmer say? Columbus Nebraska. 417-ly North of Foundry. ed.